

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Original) A method of containing peas comprising the steps of providing a container mounted on a vehicle and containing a pea load, maintaining the concentration of oxygen at or above 15% by volume throughout the container and maintaining the concentration of carbon dioxide at or below 1% by volume throughout the container.

Claim 2 (Original) A method of containing peas according to Claim 1, wherein a conduit is provided having an inlet in communication with the outside atmosphere and an outlet in communication with the interior of the container.

Claim 3 (Original) A method of containing peas according to Claim 2, wherein the inlet faces the forward direction of travel of the vehicle.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended) A method of containing peas according to Claim 2 ~~or Claim 3~~, wherein the outlet of the conduit is positioned near the bottom of the container.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended) A method of containing peas according to ~~any of Claims 2 to 4~~ claim 2, wherein the container comprises a main part to receive the peas and a cavity to receive the outlet of the conduit, the cavity being formed at the bottom of the container and being separated from the main part by a gas permeable partition.

Claim 6 (Original) A method of containing peas according to Claim 1, wherein at least a part of the container rotates about an inclined axis.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended) A method of containing peas according to ~~any previous~~ ~~claim~~claim 1, wherein a fan establishes a gas flow through the peas.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended) A method of containing peas according to ~~any previous~~ ~~claim~~claim 1, wherein a gas flow rate, flowing through each square metre of the pea load in a plane generally perpendicular to the air flow, is between 600 L min⁻¹ and 16000 L min⁻¹.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended) A method of containing peas according to ~~any previous~~ ~~claim~~claim 1, wherein a gas flow rate, flowing through each square metre of the pea load in a plane generally perpendicular to the air flow, is between 1000 L min⁻¹ and 14000 L min⁻¹.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended) A method of containing peas according to ~~any previous~~ ~~claim~~claim 1, wherein the container has an opening which is provided with a removable cover and which allows the flow of gas between the container and the outside atmosphere.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended) A method of containing peas according to ~~any previous~~ ~~claim~~claim 1, wherein the concentration of oxygen throughout the pea load is maintained at or above atmospheric air levels.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended) A method of containing peas according to ~~any previous~~ ~~claim~~claim 1, wherein the concentration of carbon dioxide throughout the pea load is maintained at or below atmospheric air levels.

Claim 13 (Original) A container for containing peas provided with means for establishing a gas flow through the container to maintain the oxygen concentration at or above 15% by volume throughout the container and the carbon dioxide concentration at or below 1% by volume throughout the container; the container being mounted on a vehicle.

Claim 14 (Original) A container for containing peas according to Claim 13, the container comprising a main part, in which in use the peas are received, and a cavity, the main part and the cavity being separated by a gas permeable partition, the container being provided a conduit having an inlet and an outlet, the outlet being located in the cavity and the inlet being located outside the container.

Claim 15 (Original) A container for containing peas according to Claim 14, wherein the inlet of the conduit faces the forward direction of travel of the vehicle.

Claim 16 (Original) A container according to Claim 13, containing peas, wherein at least a part of the container rotates about a slightly inclined axis.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended) A method of processing peas including the steps of harvesting peas, introducing the peas into a container according to ~~any of Claims 13 to 16~~claim 13, transporting the peas to a processing station, blanching the peas and freezing the peas.

Claim 18 (Original) A method of processing peas according to Claim 18, wherein the peas are then packaged.